THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Prasar Bharati has informed that the DD Bharati has various genres of programmes which include themes on health, art & culture, performing arts, music, folk art and programmes for children.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is to early to measure the success of the channel.

Task Force Conditional Access System

4147. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the task force set-up by her Ministry for conditional access system of broadcasting has finalised a multi-tier structure of delivery;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has also finalised the specifications of the set-top box used for conditional access;

(c) whether the Committee has also decided that the free-to-air channels would be broadcast on a basic tier where the subscriber will have to pay a nominal charge on per subscriber basis; and

(d) if so, to what extent these have helped the broadcasting system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The main recommendations of the Task Force set-up to examine all aspects related to Conditional Access System (CAS) are—

(i) The Conditional Access System and the supportive Subscriber Management System should be mandated under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

(ii) The Set-Top Box (STB) shall be required only for "pay" Channels and "Free to Air" channels shall be receivable by the subscribers in the current mode without the use of STB.

(iii) The technical parameters of STB shall conform to the Indian standards, to be prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards, which may take into account the internationally acceptable standards consult technologists/manufacturers.

(iv) Unauthorised viewing/distribution/redistribution of the broadcast signal should be made a cognizable offence.

(v) The Government should regulate the price of 'Basic Tier' of 'Free-to-Air' channels. The Government will also make a special provision for the channels of the Public Service broadcaster.

(vi) There should be no requirement for change of the receiving set, irrespective of whether the consumer chooses to watch 'Free to Air' channels and/or 'Pay' channels.

The introduction of an addressable System for Pay channel viewing through cable would give the choice to the consumer to pay for only those channels that he chooses to view and would bring transparency in viewership figures.

Misguiding Programmes by Doordarshan

†4148. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the public is being misguided through the programmes telecast recently by Doordarshan; and

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to make Doordarshan transparent?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Advertisements in Newspaper and Periodicals

4149. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total space of advertisements given to various newspapers and periodicals in terms of square centimetres and amount given by DAVP during the 2000-2001 and 1st April, 2001 to 31st December, 2001; and

(b) the details of advertisements given in each language during the said period?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi